



# CITY OF SEQUIM News



December 2019

## Meeting Dates & Locations

The meetings are held at the Civic Center located at 152 West Cedar Street.

City Council Regular Meeting Council Chambers	2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m.
City Council Work Session Council Chambers (when required)	2nd & 4th Monday 5:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Council Chambers	1st & 3rd Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
Parks, Arbor, and Recreation Board Community Conf. Room	3rd Monday 5:00 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. Community Conf. Room	Quarterly—Next Meeting December 13—10:00 a.m.
Arts Advisory Commission Community Conf. Room	3rd Monday 3:00 p.m.

The December 23 City Council Meeting has been cancelled due to holiday schedules.

### Karen Kuznek-Reese Gallery Dedication Friday, December 6 at 5:15 p.m.

Sequim Civic Center, 152 West Cedar Street

Please join the City of Sequim as we honor Karen Kuznek-Reese, City of Sequim Clerk from 1998 to 2019, for her work with the City and the arts community by naming the gallery in the Civic Center the Karen Kuznek-Reese Gallery.

Please join us for the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Civic Center December 6 at 6:00 p.m. The Holiday Tree will be decorated with ornaments made by Sequim 4th grade students.



### Bring your Donations for the Sequim Food Bank to the Sequim Civic Center

Help to ensure a happy holiday for everyone in Sequim. The City is accepting donations of non-perishable foods for the Sequim Food Bank now through Friday, December 20. Just look for the big red barrel in the lobby. The Civic Center is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



City Offices will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25 for the Christmas Holiday and on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

No Coffee with the Mayor in December due to holiday schedules.

### Utility Rate Changes

The proposed 2020 budget includes a 4% increase in water rates and a 0% increase in sewer rates. The overall impact to the average household using less than 600 cubic feet of water per month is a \$1.21 increase or 1.3% because water bills are smaller than sewer bills. The following chart illustrates the impact of the rate change.

	2019	2020	Change
Water Base Rate	\$ 26.26	\$ 27.31	\$ 1.05
Water Usage Rate <600 cf	\$ 0.00913	\$ 0.00950	\$ 0.00037
Average Bill using 457 cf	\$ 30.37	\$ 31.58	\$ 1.21
Sewer Rate	\$ 59.38	\$ 59.38	\$ —
Total Bill	\$ 89.75	\$ 90.96	\$ 1.21

### Utility Discounts Available for Low Income Residents

To financially assist those struggling to meet their basic needs, utility rate reductions are available for qualifying low income residents. You may qualify if your income does not exceed 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. There is an additional net asset based test to determine qualification, which does not include the value of the primary residence in that eligibility calculation. The exact amount of your discount will be administratively determined upon receipt of all applications for the 2020 program. Qualifying applicants will see the discounted rates on their February 1 bill.

Applications for the 2020 discount are due **January 15, 2020** and are available at the following locations: Sequim Civic Center, DSHS, Sequim Community Aid, St Vincent De Paul, Serenity House, United Way and the Sequim Senior Center. Applications can also be downloaded from our website at <https://www.sequimwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5605/Low-Income-Utility-Discount>. Please don't hesitate to call the Civic Center at (360) 683-4139 with your questions.

## Prepare Your Pipes for Fall and Winter

### Winterize your outside water connections.



Unhook any attached hoses from outdoor taps and drain any remaining water from the hose. Cover the taps with a Styrofoam connector, which you can purchase from a hardware store, to help prevent freezing.

If you have pipes that are not underground, disconnect them from the water source if possible and blow air through them. If disconnecting them is not possible, put insulation on or over the exposed piping.

### Going out of town for a few months?

If you live in the Sequim city limits and are on City water, consider having your water shut off at the meter by the City. There is a one-time charge of \$45.00 (rate through December 2019). You would only be billed a stand-by fee of \$26.26 for water and \$26.26 for sewer (rates through December 2019) per month.



*You will need to come in to the Civic Center and sign paperwork to have your water turned off.*

After the meter has been shut off, there may still be water in the lines. Turn a faucet on until no remaining water comes through, then turn off the faucet. If possible, turn off your water valve going into the house, if you have one.

When you are ready to return, call Sequim Civic Center at 360- 683-4139 at least two (2) business days prior to your arrival to have the water turned on. **Please note: Someone will need to be at your home when the meter is turned on.**

## Sign Up for the Polco Survey System



Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for Polco and for providing important feedback to the City.

Polco is an online polling service. You can sign up at <https://polco.us/sequim> and approximately every two weeks you will receive a notice that there are 4—7 new questions available for you to answer. Sign-up will ask for your name, email, zip code, and for you to set up a password.

Please check the City's website for summary reports of past surveys.

We look forward to your participation and feedback. Please contact Communications and Marketing Director Barbara Hanna at 360-681-3422 or [bhanna@sequimwa.gov](mailto:bhanna@sequimwa.gov) with questions.

**Please remember to turn off your automatic sprinkler system for the fall and winter.**

## In the Gallery...

### "Tie One On" Exhibit October 4— December 18



Join us for the First Friday Art Walk on Friday, December 6 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Please contact Arts Coordinator Cyndi Hueth at [chueth@sequimwa.gov](mailto:chueth@sequimwa.gov) or 360-582-2477 with questions.

Gallery Hours: Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Guy Cole Event Center to Close for Additional Renovations

The Guy Cole Event Center at Carrie Blake Park in Sequim will be closed for renovations December 22, 2019 through February 29, 2020 to complete the breakout room on the east side of the building and to perform maintenance.

Please contact the Sequim Public Works Department at (360) 683-4908 with questions.

## You Count! Be Counted!

### 2020 Census

#### Remember 10—10—10

- 10 questions on the Census questionnaire
- 10 minutes to complete
- 10 years of data for your community

#### Census Day is April 1, 2020

Residents may begin to see census takers in neighborhoods. You can learn more about why census workers are in neighborhoods at [https://2020census.gov/en/census-takers.html?utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=gov\\_delivery](https://2020census.gov/en/census-takers.html?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=gov_delivery)

[https://2020census.gov/en/census-takers.html?utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=gov\\_delivery](https://2020census.gov/en/census-takers.html?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=gov_delivery)

Learn more about the census at <https://www.2020census.gov/>



## Holiday Décor Recycling Guidelines

- Plain paper and light cardboard go in the "mixed paper recycling, *but*
- Ribbon, foil, glitter and plastic wrapping and décor go in the garbage.

## Stay Current with City News

- Sign up for E-Notifications through the City website <https://www.sequimwa.gov/>
- Read the City Manager Weekly Reports on the City Website
- Like us on Facebook at City of Sequim Government
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